

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

receiving a multimedia message;

setting an index value of the multimedia message indicative of whether the multimedia message is a new multimedia message or a previously sent multimedia message;

storing the multimedia message in a storage device with the set index value;

receiving information including an index value ~~data~~ from a user agent;

searching the storage device for the multimedia message, the search performed based on a comparison of the index value in the information received from the user agent ~~data~~ and the index value set in the stored multimedia message; and

forwarding the multimedia message produced by the search ~~to the user agent~~.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the index value is set in a header of the multimedia message.
3. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the index value comprises a predetermined bit in order to discriminate the multimedia message from other multimedia messages.
4. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the index value is set as a value corresponding to other than `0` by a multimedia messaging service server.

5. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the index value is set as a value corresponding to `0` when contents of the multimedia message change.

6. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the index value is set as a value corresponding to `0` when the multimedia message is deleted from a mailbox.

7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein forwarding the multimedia message comprises forwarding the multimedia message from a server to a receiving side user agent.

8. (Previously Presented) A method comprising:
transmitting header information of a multimedia message from a user agent to a server; and
determining an index value of the transmitted header information, wherein the index value indicates whether the multimedia message is a new multimedia message or a previously sent multimedia message.

9. (Original) The method of claim 8, further comprising retrieving a multimedia message having a same index value in a mailbox.

10. (Original) The method of claim 9, further comprising inserting information of a receiving side in the retrieved multimedia message.

11. (Original) The method of claim 10, further comprising transmitting the multimedia message to a user agent on the receiving side.

12. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein the information of the receiving side comprises one of a telephone number and an address of the receiving side.

13. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein the index value includes a predetermined bit to discriminate among multimedia messages.

14. (Original) The method of claim 8, further comprising a multimedia server setting the index value to correspond to a value other than `0`.

15. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein the index value is set to correspond to `0` when contents of the multimedia message changes.

16. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein the index value is set to correspond to `0` when the multimedia message is deleted from a mailbox.

17. (Original) The method of claim 8, further comprising transmitting the multimedia message when the index value corresponds to `0`.

18. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein the multimedia message stored in a mailbox has a predetermined storage time set by a multimedia user agent.

19. (Original) The method of claim 18, further comprising automatically deleting the multimedia message stored in the mailbox when the set storing time elapses.

20. (Previously Presented) A multimedia communication method comprising:
receiving a header information of a multimedia message, wherein the header information includes an index value that indicates whether the multimedia message is a new multimedia message or a previously received multimedia message; and
determining how to communicate a multimedia message based on the received header information.

21. (Original) The method of claim 20, wherein determining how to communicate comprises determining an index value of the multimedia message.

22. (Canceled)

23. (Original) The method of claim 21, further comprising forwarding the multimedia message from a first user agent to a second user agent based on the determined index value.

24. (Original) The method of claim 21, further comprising retrieving a multimedia message having a similar index value from a memory based on the determined index value.

25. (Original) The method of claim 24, further comprising associating identification information of a receiving side with the retrieved multimedia message.

26. (Previously Presented) A server comprising:
a receiving device to receive at least an index value of a multimedia message;
a processor to select information to transmit based on the index value, wherein the index value indicates whether the multimedia message is a new multimedia message or a previously received multimedia message; and
a transmitting device to transmit at least the selected information.

27. (Original) The server of claim 26, wherein the index value is provided in a header of the multimedia message.

28. (Original) The server of claim 26, wherein the index value comprises a predetermined bit in order to discriminate the multimedia message from other multimedia messages.

29. (Original) The server of claim 26, wherein the processor sets the index value to correspond to `0` when contents of the multimedia message change.

30. (Original) The server of claim 26, wherein the processor sets the index value to correspond to `0` when the multimedia message is deleted from a mailbox.

31. (Original) The server of claim 26, wherein the processor decides to forward the multimedia message from a first user agent to a second user agent based on the received index value.

32. (Original) The server of claim 26, wherein the processor decides to retrieve a multimedia message having a similar index value from a memory based on the determined index value.

33. (Currently Amended) A method for processing a multimedia message comprising:
transmitting one of:

(a) a [[the]] multimedia message including an [[the]] index value in a [[the]] header of the multimedia message, wherein the index value indicates that the multimedia message is a new multimedia message or a changed multimedia message from a previously sent multimedia message, ~~[[and]]~~ or

(b) only a [[the]] header of a [[the]] multimedia message, wherein an [[the]] index value of the header indicates the multimedia message was a previously sent multimedia message, which has not changed; and

receiving one of the header in (b) or ~~and~~ the multimedia message in (a), wherein when only the header in (b) is received, the method further comprises retrieving the ~~a stored~~ multimedia message having a corresponding ~~the same~~ index value as the received header from a storage device.

34. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 33, wherein the index value is set as a '0' when the multimedia message is a new multimedia message or the changed multimedia message.

35. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 33, wherein the index value is set other than '0' to discriminate among multimedia messages when the multimedia message is the previously sent multimedia message, which has not changed.

36. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 35, wherein the index value includes a predetermined bit to discriminate among multimedia messages.

37. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 33, forwarding the retrieved multimedia message or forwarding the received multimedia message.

38. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein said receiving includes:
receiving header information that includes the index value, the header information received without message contents when the index value indicates that the multimedia message is not a changed message or first-sent message.